

## A SAD OLD MAN.

WEIGHED DOWN BY HIS WIFE'S  
EXTRAVAGANCE

And Driven to Death By His Daughter's Shame—The  
Story of Jacob Cramer and His Unhappy Family  
Relations—His Last Talk With Mr. Gildea  
Humboldt, Saturday, 2, 1906

The late Jacob Cramer, as honest a man as ever lived—from the day of the death of his dear daughter, Jennie, until, broken-hearted, his own sad life was ended, firmly believed that his daughter Jennie killed herself. Grieving over not only her death, but other things which had long troubled his mind and impaired his health, he steadily declined in strength after the memorable 6th of August, when he saw his child bereft of life. When, on the morning of the 21st of last December, the friends and neighbors of the unfortunate family entered his dwelling they were told by Mrs. Cramer how he died. Mrs. Cramer also told the neighbors and friends the cause as well as manner of her husband's death. Her explanation was deemed sufficient to satisfy all. Dr. Hildebrand said there was no doubt on the subject and it was decided that there should be no inquest. In view of all that has been said and known of the death of Jennie E. Cramer, it will perhaps be questioned whether some official inquiry into the cause of Mr. Cramer's death would not have been justified. Mrs. Cramer thought he died from broken heart, on account of Jennie being

murdered." That was what she said, and yet she was not a murderer. She was a victim. He did not believe Jennie was murdered. He thought she committed suicide. After Mr. Cramer died the question came up in an inquest as to whether or not the act of Mr. Cramer or in some other way. As there was no proper inquisition, Mrs. Cramer's theory that her husband was killed by the act of Dr. Lindsey and Dr. Lindsey's, that he died from a long course of sickness, answers the purposes of the friends and neighbors of Mr. Cramer. As a fact nothing was actually revealed as to the cause of death. The Cramer family apparently was not raised by the act of Dr. Lindsey about drugs and their healing and the dangers of improper administration of them. For instance: A prescription is written off for them to take. It is a medicine, it is a laudanum, it is an ingredient, and it was bought and used. What else he used, he and Mrs. Cramer and the prescribing friends alone could know. The fact that the Cramer family was a family of people is put down in the medical books as a verity, and Fowler's solution is the form of medicine that was used. The laudanum was so used by Mr. Cramer, he knew that he must not take an overdose, and if he should he would die. Let us see what Mr. Cramer, the doctor, the friends, the family, the causes and after a prolonged illness, died the very day before his death.

In company with a friend he called at the place of John R. Gildea, on Congress avenue, and had a talk. Mr. Gildea had often advanced him money and bought cigars from him, and he had been a good friend to his business advantage, but because he knew Mr. Cramer to be an honest man and in mental trouble, after speaking of his sorrows, he had not been able to do so. It was his final farewell of him. Mr. Gildea was so affected by the incident that his eyes filled with tears, and the gentleman who has since been called to the witness stand, was also affected. We cannot tell what Mr. Cramer told Mr. Gildea. Whatever secrets of his business or family trouble that he revealed to him, he has never divulged to anyone else. We heard, Mr. Gildea was told by Mr. Cramer that he would see him no more on earth. To others and for weeks before this, the unhappy man had said to himself, "The very thing I fear is his death." Mr. Cramer said to him: "I shall die some day, when you don't expect it." Ominous words, indeed! For days before he died he had the day of his death in his mind. He died on Tuesday. Only the Sunday before the Tuesday, when his wife entered his room (which she did not occupy with him for reasons which existed in his mind) he said to her, "I am still warm, but without life," he said to little Minnie Cramer: "I shall soon be dead."

A few words about Mr. Gildea. He had been a partner in the Cramer business for some time to time. Mr. Cramer often spoke of how hard it was to get along. He longed for a time to come, when he could own his property, and he had been offered a large sum of money. The property was mortgaged

and his interest and insurance were a burden to him. Mr. Gildea showed him, however, that he could get the insurance money reduced to about \$18 and at Mr. Cramer's request, Mr. Gildea put the matter in good shape and the insurance was afterward fixed at \$18.00. Mr. Gildea was not satisfied, but Mr. Cramer was despondent he talked with his friend Gildea. Burdened as he was with obligations had to meet, he did not like to take any more growing up, dignity and with extravagant habits.

THE INCIDENT WITH THE  
WIFE

He was not content with his wife's management altogether and nobody can say just what was in his mind, that made him so despondent. He was not sure, but he thought it best to notify those in whom he had an interest, of the awful stillness and rest to which he was hastening. There is a bit of a story about this, but it is not a story of eyes of intelligence. Mrs. Cramer said that at 5 o'clock on the morning of her husband's death, she heard him (in her room) breathe and she thought that he was still alive, but as though he might have been struggling with a nightmare. It was the nightmare which preceded death. She said that when she opened the door of life forsakes the five human wonderful muscles and bones of the body, and

There are some extraordinary things in this letter. I shall rest in peace by my children's graves, he wrote. He had never been dead, certainly not by his chil-

ren. The request to Dr. Lindsley, to make out his death certificate has a singular premeditation about it, that must attract attention. A question naturally arises, "Was Mr. Cranmer a suicidal temperament?" It was handy in the house a bottle of something with Fowler's solution as a constituent? If this was a fact, did not Jennie know of such a thing? She bought her father's medicine and bought at drug stores whatever he thought best. It is thought very probable that Fowler's solution may have been prescribed for Mr. Cranmer, either by doctor or some one else. If it was used by him, it was as much within reach of Jennie as him-

I talked with one of the Mr. Jewett's about stock breeding in the south. He is familiar, of course, with the fashions of Kentucky and Tennessee and was interested in the little that I could tell him about the grass chances of the other southern states. He thinks that when the time comes to breed good draught horses—this is the starting point—and good breeds of cows for their own use—in other words, when there is a demand for the best of good stock—this is the day of regeneration has almost started enough he measures civilization by a stock standard; but, when you come to think of it, I am not sure there is any better standard. Certainly I might say that in proportion to the attention given to improving stock, the agricultural class leaves slovenly habits in general, and is content with nothing less than the most primitive agriculture that will yield from soil or animal.

—WILLIAMS.

THE EGYPTIAN QUESTION  
To be Settled in Conference—The Events of the Day

LONDON, June 1.—The Times in a leading article says: Yesterday the French cabinet proposed, and England agreed to recommend, that the powers and Turkey hold a conference at Constantinople to discuss the Egyptian question on the basis of a status quo, namely: the maintenance of the sovereignty of the Egyptian empire, the maintenance of the rights and privileges of the Egyptian population, the rights and privileges of the Egyptians as guaranteed by the firmans, a prudent development of their institutions, and the observance of international law. The cabinet of Berlin, says the Times from Constantinople says that the representatives of Germany, Austria, Italy and Russia went on to discuss the Egyptian question and proposed to demand, made by the English and French ambassadors, advising Turkey to support the khedive and to accept the status quo. The cabinet of Berlin, says Constantinople. A dispatch to the Standard from Alexandria states that the publication of this information has had a good effect. It is the opinion of the Standard that the effect of the pressure of the powers. An invitation to the conference at Constantinople to consider the Egyptian question reached the cabinet today.

IN THE COMMONS.  
Special Dispatch to The Constitution.

LONDON, June 1.—In the House of commons this afternoon, Sir Charles Dilke, after foreign affairs had been discussed, moved in support of the suggestion of France, had agreed to invite the other powers to a conference for the settlement of the Egyptian question on the basis of a statu quo. The government had already agreed to send M. De Freycinet to take the powers into their confidence. It might be objected that the conference would cause delay, but the government had already agreed to do this. It had suggested to the sultan that it was desirable that the Turkish flag be displayed in Egyptian waters, and that the Turkish commissioners be conveyed to Egypt. The government had already agreed to do this, and had said, had been instructed to take steps

to protect the Suez canal. The papers on the subject would be presented immediately to the cabinet, and he would comprehend any immediate necessity for landing the troops. He said that what was most apprehended by the European residents in Egypt, was likely to engender the intervention of the European military powers. He would not apprehend any immediate necessity for landing the troops. The government consider themselves in a position to resist any aggression. It was feared that intervention by Europe, instigated by Turkey, would inflame fanaticism. There was no reason to consider the Egyptian troops as being in any way endangered. The rumor that the Indian troops were about to be brought to Egypt was without foundation. Sir Charles Dilke said that he had received a communication from the Egyptian government at Suez, that the gunboats at either end of the Suez canal, were about to be sold. The question as to the presidency of the conference was not yet decided. Turkey had been invited to participate in the conference, and had received a communication from her government to-day, testifying to the complete concord of views between France and England. Mr. Gladstone said that a telegram had just been received from which it was ascertained that Arabi Pasha had completely thrown off the mask, and would probably act on the pretended deposition of Tewfik Pasha, as a justification for his actions. Mr. Gladstone stated that the government considered themselves bound to support the present Khedive, because he had, as far as they could ascertain, been a faithful ruler. Mr. Ashmead Bartlett asked if the decision of the conference to be held at Constantinople would be enforced by arms. Sir Charles Dilke replied that that was the very question on which the conference was being held. Mr. Ashmead Bartlett asked if the conference was to be held in the house of lords, the marquis of Salisbury said he had received information that six hundred soldiers were employed in erecting a new work at Constantinople. He said that the British government would not permit the fleet to interfere. Lord Salisbury remarked that if they allowed the works to be completed, they would be in a position to permit the fleet to interfere. He hoped that the conference at Constantinople would be a short one. Lord Granville replied that the governments were fully aware of the importance of the conference, and were determined how best to fulfil their duty.

IN THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.

SPECIAL Dispatch to The Constitution.

PARIS, JUNE 1.—In the Chamber of deputies today De Freycinet, replying to the interpellations relative to Egypt, declared the resort to European concert. Any other course, he declared must lead to adventures. He declared that French military intervention in Egypt would have no place whatever in the government's plans. Gambetta asked what course the government would take if its proposals were disregarded at the conference. De Freycinet replied that anybody thought France ought to undertake a military expedition the chamber must decide between such policy and that of the Chamber of Deputies. He said that he could not hear without a protest that France could never intervene. De Freycinet explained that he meant that France would not go to Egypt to take the place of England by her own isolated action. He said that the European concert France had accepted the duties which the decisions of Europe might impose on the government, but that since his prior declaration, had not been the secret of her weakness. De Freycinet made an explanation of the objects of the Egyptian expedition, to make it in the Chamber of Deputies. The order of the day, pure and simple, was moved by Clemenceau, and was rejected by a vote of 323 to 176. An order of the day expressing confidence in the government was adopted by 323 to 176.

**CAIRO, June 1.**—The khedive has received a telegram from his agent, at Constantinople, stating that the Ottoman commissioner will leave for Egypt to-morrow, without waiting for a conference.

**THE IRISH QUESTION.**

**LONDON, June 1.**—Mr. Farquhar, late mayor of Liverpool, writes to the Times that his experience of Fenianism in America has convinced him that the outrages in Ireland are perpetrated by the hirelings of a small coterie of Fenians in America. To suppress Fenianism, he says, American co-operation is indispensable. This is clearly secured by showing that the American conspirators are a distinct organization from the Irish nationalists and can be dealt with without interfering with the Irish vote. England has a right to ask America to strangle Fenianism at the place of its birth.



















A CENSITIVE VIEW

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